

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6201

ANSWERED ON:11.04.2017

Fire Safety Norms

Solanki Dr. Kirit Premjibhai

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any monitoring mechanism to ensure that all hospitals follow the National Building Code and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether prevention of fires and emergency response have not been prioritized by the Government as they have been delegated to municipal bodies, if so, the details and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government against those who violate fire safety norms and do not follow the standard fire protocol?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a) to (c): The Fire Services have been included as Municipal Function under Article 243 (W) in the XIIth Schedule of the Constitution of India. It is therefore the primary responsibility of the Municipal Bodies and the State Governments to ensure safety of life and property of the citizens from fire related accidents.

The Government of India, Ministry of Home Affairs has constituted Standing Fire Advisory Council (SFAC), having representatives of all State Governments. The SFAC meets from time to time to examine the problems of

...2/-

-2-

L.S.US.Q.NO6201 FOR 11.04.2017

Fire Services in the country and to recommend suitable measures to upgrade the standards of fire services in schools, hospitals, commercial buildings and housing societies. The SFAC also recommended implementing fire safety provisions prescribed in the National Building Code of India. Guidelines were issued to the States to incorporate the recommendations of National Building Code into local building bye-laws for fire and life safety. However, implementation and enforcement of these Standard Codes and guidelines is the responsibility of State Governments.

There is penalty provision in case fire safety rules are violated, but the penalty varies from State to State in accordance with the prevailing Fire Safety Acts and Rules. However, this Ministry does not centrally maintain the information on actions taken by different State Governments in this regard.
